our lives would be!

The Book of the Acts is full of instances of the power of prayer. How often were the Apostles prayed out of prison, prayed out of danger. How many thousands were prayed into accepting Jesus Christ as their savior.

Xty overcame the Roman Empire and its heathen religion thru the powe of prayer. All great world-revivals were started in earnest prayer. The great Methodist movement was the result of prayer. Thru prayer and meditation Luther, the monk, emancipated the Xn world from the slavery of pennances, ordinances and other distortions of the Church.

Organizations all over the country are beginning to appeal to the churches for help to stem the tide of crime. They are asking us Xns to put the fear of the Lord into the hearts and minds of our children. They are asking us Xns to train our children in those religious practices that will civilize their characters and make them grow up with respect for and obedience to the laws of society and the land.

Sounding Forth the Gospel

1Thess. 1:8But from you~~s~~ sounded forth the Word of the Lord.

The word,"sounded forth", means resound, or echo. An echo is a repetition of a sound exactly as it was it was originally made.

Paul gave the Thessalonicans the Gospel of Christ, and in this letter the apostle expresses his appreciation and approval of their faithfulness to that Gospel by their sounding it forth, or echoing it to others. As Xns, we are expected to make a few echoes.

I.We eare expected to echo the Gospel itself- tell the story of Christ. Yes, just tell the story of Christ' coming to earth to save sinners, to redeem men from thei evil ways, to bring humanity back to God, to reconcile man to God.

All truth sooner or later becomes an echo. One man makes a scientific discovery and after that all scientists but echo the truth contained in the discovery. Astromonomers but echo Kepler's discovered laws concernine the heavenly bodies. Edison made discoveries in electrisity and others are now echoing them. Practically all of our thinking and all of our living must necessarily be in terms of echoing, or sounding forth what has alread come from others.

As Xns, all we need to do is to faithfully reprodu due the Gospel Message, to sound forth the Word of the Lord just as we have received it; to tell the story of Redemption simply and often.

"Tell me the story simply
As to a little child;
For I am weak and ~~p~~weary
And helpless and defiled.

Tell me the story slowly,
That I may take it in;
That wonderful redemption,
God's remedy for sin.

Tell me the story often,
For I forget so soon;
The early dew of morning
Has passed away at noon."

If we could only take God's thots as they come to us and echo them, how fruitful our lives would be!

Do you know why so many do not like to listen to the radio? Because the voices and music do not come thru perfectly clear and natural. There is so much static and distortion of sound. Static and distortion are the two things that stand in the way of perfect ~~reproductio~~n radio reception. Radio experts are bending everyeffort to overcome static, distortion and fading.

And do you know why so many people have no use for church people? Because their sounding forth of the Word of the Lord is full of static, distortion and fading- it is hard to get the original clear Gospel from them. Just as there is always more or less static in the air, and just as thee is as yet no distortionless reception over the radio, and just as some stations fade away right in the middle of an interesting program, so Xns do not sound forth the Word of the Lord consistently and perfectly. Not one of us is perfect, no not one of us can call himself good.

Nevertheless, there are millions who listen to the radio in spite of the static and distortion. They get what they can out of their sets, thankful for that much. And thousands are constantly trying to improve radio reception, hence new discoveries are constantly being made.

And it is the same way with the Gospel Truth. In spite of the static and distortion in the lives of us Xns, and in spite of the fact that so many of us Xns fade away from Christ when He most needs us, countless millions are,nevertheless, listening to the Glad Tidings as told in the lives and deeds of X's followers. They overlook the static and distortion in order to gain the Truth as it is in Christ Jesus. For the soul of man is hungering and thristing for God and the world is dying to be saved.

And to carry our illustration still further, just as radio reception is constantly being improved ~~by~~ because there are those who are bending over their sets, studyin and tinkering away to find out ways of improvement, so the cause of Christ is constantly being advanced because there are those on bended knees before the throne of God who, in earnest prayer, are trying to bring the power of G God to earth in fuller measure.

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But how are we going to make our children listen to the gospel story of Christ? Whatever else may be said concerning our young people, either for or against, one thing is certain- they will not listen thru too much static and distortion. When we approach them we must be able to sound forth clearly and truthfully the word of the Lord. We must be able to tell them the story in all clarit and sincerity. Our daily lives must not contradict what we tell them. We, ourselves, must not be stumbling blocks in their way.

Thru prayer we can be made fit and ready to sound forth the Word of the Lord unto our children.

Secret prayer. Family altars. Church prayer-meetings.

Since so much depends upon ourselves so far as our sounding forth the Word of the Lord is concerned, let us seek, thru personal living and example, thru personal giving and sharing, thru personal work and service to so tell the old, old, story of Christ and His wonderful love as to persuade our children and loved ones and friends and strangers in our midst to listen and beieve.